State of Florida DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES

ELECTRA THEODORIDES-BUSTLE Executive Director

September 28, 2007

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

BILL McCOLLUM Attorney General

ALEX SINK Chief Financial Officer

CHARLES H. BRONSON Commissioner of Agriculture

Notice to Florida Dealers Regarding Electronic Temporary Registration

The purpose of this letter is to provide dealers with an implementation status of the legislative requirements related to electronically capturing the registration information associated with the issuance of temporary tags. The process to accomplish this is referred to as the Electronic Temporary Registration (ETR) program. One of the major benefits of this program is to improve roadside safety for all law enforcement officers by making temporary tag registration information readily available.

The Electronic Temporary Registration program is a system developed by the department for motor vehicle dealers to report the issuance of temporary license plates. The department has been working diligently with all interested parties including the Automobile Dealer Advisory Board regarding the implementation of the Electronic Temporary Registration requirements as established by the 2005 and 2007 Legislative Sessions.

The 2005 Legislative Session authorized the department to develop and administer the ETR program. To determine the feasibility of such a program, the department authorized a pilot program in Orange County, which concluded in October 2006. After evaluating the success of the pilot, the department authorized the expansion of the ETR program to all counties and dealers beginning July 1, 2007. The link below contains a list of certified vendors currently authorized by the department to provide this service, as well as a variety of information regarding the ETR program.

http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/etr/etr.html

Additional requirements were added to the ETR program during the 2007 Legislative Session. The most significant change requires the ETR program to become mandatory for all department-authorized issuers of temporary license plates (i.e. dealers, tax collectors, etc.) by July 1, 2008. It also requires that the temporary license plate be issued using a print-on-demand process. The department is in the preliminary stages of rulemaking in order to effectively implement the 2007 Legislation and we anticipate beginning the rulemaking process within the next 50 days. As additional information becomes available, we will notify you by publishing it at the above Internet location, dealer trade associations, bulletins at regional DMV offices, etc.

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Given the number of dealers who will need to convert to the ETR program, we believe that it is necessary for each of you to review your business operations as soon as possible, then evaluate and select an ETR provider from the approved list at the above web address. Implementing ETR in your dealership during this voluntary period will allow you and your staff additional time to integrate ETR into your operations. It will also provide you with an opportunity to communicate any concerns you identify to the department prior to the finalization of rules and procedures governing the ETR program.

Once again, the above link has the information necessary for you to get started. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in implementing this important program and helping Florida improve the protection for the uniformed men and women performing roadside enforcement.

Sincerely,

Carl A. Ford, Director Division of Motor Vehicles